# WOMEN AUTHORS OF POPULAR FICTION



Louise Closser Hale AUTHOR OF "HER SOUL & HER BODY"

NEW BOOKS.

Continued from Fourth Page.

covery of the diamond and the final disposal of it are tamer, but the author keeps his readers thoroughly interested. They will enjoy particularly the wise Chinese merchant with his philosophy.

Fifteen short stories by Margaret Cameron which have the merit of being cheerful and fully up to the standard of magazine stories are published under the title "Tangles" (Harpers). Those that turn on queer predicaments are rather forced, for the author is too conscious of the humor of the situation she has created and her touch is somewhat heavy. With the tangles of lovers it is much lighter and she wholly satisfies her Readers who hoped that Florence Morse

Kingsley's gentle heroine was settled for good will share her anxieties while reading Miss Philura's Wedding Gown" (Dodd. Mead and Company). The sentiment may be a bit artificial at times, but it is pretty, and it is worth while to be set back into almost the conditions from which the heroine was extricated to learn how the minister calls his elders to time. Those who enjoyed the first story

will surely like this one.
In venturing into the field of farcical mystery Mr. Hilaire Belloc, who now writes "The Green Overcoat" (McBride. Nast and Company, New York), starts with a comical idea. The behavior of startles the reader and the fun quickly degenerates into coarse horseplay, which does not mean impropriety. It recalls Blackmore's unfortunate attempts to be funny. In this instance Mr. Belloc's humor is decidedly dull. Mr. G. K. Chesterton contributes illustrations, whose sole merit is that they are by Mr. Chester-

In describing a young college graduate's first plunge into business in "Dawson, '11, Fortune Hunter" (Dodd, Mead and Comup picturesquely and effectively various common and generally accepted forms of dishonesty. He sets up a high standard sermon. His illustrations are good.

More ready to compromise with shady Business Woman" (Henry Holt and Company) tells how a sharp young woman led. She comes to admire hustle and effectiveness more than some old fashioned qualities and seems to have found her place when she establishes an advertising agency. There are realistic pictures of the unpleasant sides of business, and what will seem to many rather exaggerated ideas of the value of success. h There are good descriptions of forest scenery in "When the Forests Are Ablaze" (A. C. McClurg and Company, Chicago) and an account of a great forest fire. The forester is interesting and we can sympathize with the heroine's terrors during her lonely winter. She is a school eacher who has settled on a homestead claim in the Spokane forest region. The rest of the book is not very entertaining: there are descriptions of school teachers and their troubles, which have little to do with the story, and there is much useful information about the forests and what the Government is doing to preserve them. which is all well enough in its place, but of which we are having an overdose in fiction, both for the old and the

## Home University Library.

The nine new volumes of the useful "Home University Library" (Williams and Norgate; Henry Holt and Company), 47 to 55, which are now before us, though respectable in execution and fulfilling the purposes of the series, have among them none of the striking brilliancy or originality such as have at times appeared in previous volumes. Four, an unusual proportion, are by American authors.

Cambridge in "Ethics" discusses in clear and simple language the general principles on which that branch of philosophy is based. In "The Making of the Earth," by the descriptions of travellers. In "Gates of the Dolomites" (Jo Prof. J. W. Gregory, F. R. S., D. Sc., of the University of Glasgow, deals with the written a very complete guide to a part and its assuming its present form, winding unusual attention in England of late. There up with the speculations regarding the beginning of life. Prof. Gisbert Kapp of the University of Birmingham describes in general terms "Electricity" as a force, and touches on some of its practical applications. Prof. S. J. Chapmen of the University of Manchester is limited by the restricted space to a brief statement of the main essentials many good photographs. It is not a of the science of "Political Economy," the chief topics that economists study. Mrs. Louise Creighton's book on "Missions" is pretty general; a sketch of the history to the Reformation time is folowed by some account of Protestant missions and a demonstration of their desirability, and by a statement of the present condition of missionary activity.

Modern criticism has full swing in the account of "The Making of the New Testament" by Prof. Benjamin W. Bacon, D., of Yale University. Prof. Charles McLean Andrews, Ph. D., L. H. D., of the same university, treats "The Colonial Period" of American history, as has be-





Josephine Daskam Bacon THE INHERITANCE

W. P. Trent and John Erskine of Columbia than the fables. Mr. H. J. Ford's pictures young English gentlemen, however, soon University give brief accounts of the are very good and the volume fully demost famous men in American letters from Bryant to Bret Harte and Mark fairy books that Mr. and Mrs. Lang be-Twain. The "Master Mariners" of Mr. John R. Spears is in substance a story of exploration by sea, interrupted by accounts of the naval conflicts of the English with the Dutch and the French.

Susan Glaspell

LIFTED MASKS

Elinor Glyn

### Foreign Lands.

A considerable portion of Dr. Edgar James Banks's "Bismya, or the Lost City to find the whole story told consecutively pany) Mr. John T. McCutcheon shows of Adab" (G. P. Putnam's Sons) is taken up with the story of the difficulties he encountered in obtaining permission from the Ottoman authorities to excavate for his hero and preaches an effective little and with the trouble he had in getting work started. Annoying as these experiences must have been to him they are business transactions, but also setting certainly entertaining to his readers. folk tales, particularly those preserved the standard that honesty is good policy. He continues the personal narrative in the Kalevala, into one continuous story through the account of his work in the with additions of his own which he calls field and of the many remarkable objects "The Sampo" (Charles Scribner's Sons) greatly to the interest of his story, giving. will interest parents fully as much as it as it does, a vivid picture of what archa- will their children. The four colored ologists do and are prevented from doing in Mesopotamia. Of the importance of his interesting discoveries Assyriologists and archeologists must judge; the general reader will enjoy a very readable description of labors under difficulties in a strange

nteresting photographs. The greater part of Mr. Caspar Whitney's "The Flowing Road" (J. B. Lippincott Company) is devoted to the account of an adventurous journey from the Amazon up the Rio Negro to the Cassiquiere and through that connecting link to the Orinoco and then down stream a trip that every schoolboy who has studied the map of South America has wanted to take. He adds stories of other voyages on the Orinoco and in Venezuela and of a visit to Argentina. As might be expected from him, he has much to say of the animal life he encountered, not forgetting man.

It is an entertaining book of outdoor life

and adventure. There are many pictures

from photographs. The book of Mr. Lindon Bates, Jr. "The Path of the Conquistadores" (Houghton Mifflin Company) is much tamer. Save for the first historical chapters on the Spanish pioneers, in which he also judiclously tells the story of Simon Bolivar. it is the account of a recent voyage made by the author to Trinidad and thence by boat up the Orinoco to Ciudad Bolivar and back. It is a lively account of what the writer saw and heard, with plenty of small talk and little incidents of travel, Mr. G. E. Moore of the University of which gives a first hand impression of conditions in that part of Venezuela a land that has not yet become hackneyed

In "Gates of the Dolomites" (John Lane Company). Miss L. Marion Davidson has ories about the origin of the earth of Tyrol which seems to have attracted are bits of personal experiences now and then, but the author's purpose is to inform. She describes the country, valley by valley; indicates the roads, paths and landmarks, and makes all manner of helpful suggestions. Some chapters by F. M. Spencer Thomson on the flora and on Tryol are appended. There are book to read consecutively, but is a very intelligent and entertaining guide to a beautiful country.

## Books for the Young.

One more Christmas story book, the last to be introduced with Andrew Lang's and Heroes," and added to the long series, spread over twenty-four years, that more excitement in a few days than children come to expect from Longmans, was provided by any old time dime novel. Christmas season came around. In this volume Mrs. Lang breaks ground in a of salvation, forest work. The criminal new and rich field, the stories and legends story is ingenious, even if it is out of place

serves its place with the multicolored

In much the same manner Mr. James

Baldwin has woven together the Finnish brought to light, a process which adds It is an exciting and unusual story that

The two first and most popular adventures of Lemuel Gulliver, revised of course for the use of youths and maidens, and illustrated by P. A. Staines, are published by Henry Holt and Company under the land. The book is illustrated with many title "Gulliver's Voyages to Lilliput and Brobdignag." by Jonathan Swift. pictures have character; those in black and white are much the more powerful. but they will be appreciated more by those who can understand the Dean's satire than by the little ones. The book is a classic for youth, at all events, and it is presented here in handsome shape.

been selected by Prof. John Harrington Cox and retold in a form that children may enjoy in "Folk Tales of East and West" (Little, Brown and Company). There have been many gleaners before Prof. Cox, but he tells his stories in his own way and they are the kind of stories that bear repetition, as experience has

It is a very nice and lovable little girl that stirs up the life of the people among whom she comes in Agnes McClelland Daulton's "The Gentle Interference of Bab" (Appletons), and if some of the adventures are a bit improbable and the heroine's perceptive powers a little too highly developed, the reader will not mind it, for she will enjoy all of Bab's doings and will like her friends, young

and old. We fear that the real events in news paper life, especially at the beginning, will seem humdrum and tame to those whose ideas about it are formed on the account of the first assignment of "Fred Spencer, Reporter," by Henry M. Neely (Small, Maynard and Company). He and his more hairbreadth escapes than fall to most men in a lifetime. The story is

David to Daniel in the lions' den are retold in simple language by the Rev. Dr. George Hodges in "The Castle of Zion" priceless jewels of Hindu literature. a continuation of the author's "The Garis one like that of their predecessors. den of Eden"; the two contain all the The author takes us with these two lovers Old Testament stories in a dignified and through stern trials of life across the

People who think that life on a Vermont farm is dull and uneventful will be Mrs. Andrew Lang in "The Book of Saints (Moffat, Yard and Company). The boy in the epilogue in heaven Brahma appears who is the hero and his friend go through Green and Company as regularly as the The hero is a nice boy, however, and is directed at the close to the modern form

stowed on youth.
This year Mr. Louis Rhead has chosen to write his own text for his pictures in "Bold Robin Hood and His Outlaw Band" (Harpers). He strikes the tone of the ballads and legends he has drawn upon with much success and his remarkable woodcuts harmonize with his subject. Even for grownup readers it is difficult and at such length, while children can wish for no better form in which to learn the most charming of English romances. The story answers the questions the

with additions of his own which he calls illustrations by N. C. Wyeth are striking.

A dozen stories drawn from the old

is the slightest part of it.

The stories of the Old Testament from parents and interest children.

Margaret Pumphrey in "Stories of the Pilgrims" (Rand, McNally and Company, Chicago) tells again the story of the wanderings of the Pilgrim fathers from their

English homes to their settlement at Plymouth, and the events of the first trying years there. It is an old story, told n a way that will entertain the young. In "Bud and Bamboo" (Appletons), the story of a little Chinese boy and girl. Mr. John Stuart Thompson conveys much information regarding Chinese life and manners in very simple language, such as even small children can understand.

The need of simplifying Walter Scott's Waverley novels for the edification of youth is not apparent; unless kindergarten methods have weakened Young America's intellect boys and girls of 14 years should be able to tackle the real books as readily as their grandparents did. Somewhere in the educational scheme, however, this task has seemed desirable and Alice F. Jackson has abridged and simplified "The Fortunes of Nigel" and "Redgauntlet" in a "Scott for Boys and Girls" series. published by George W. Jacobs and Company, Philadelphia.

As charming a gift book for children

as can be found this season is the collection of "Christmas Tales and Christmas Verse" by Eugene Field, illustrated by Frances Storer (Charles Scribner's Sons). Field had the gift, which most of the modern writers of children's stories seem to lack, of addressing himself directly to the child and telling him the things he cares for. He does not describe them and make fun of their sayings and doings His verse too is simple and melodious and easily understood. The illustrations are suitable and well drawn; those that are colored have the prettiness of Christ-

mas cards.
The eccentric book that Mr. Peter Newell has evolved this year, "The Rocket Book" (Harpers), contains jingles that are generally funny and amusing colored pictures. The hole that pierces the pages seems to be a needlessly elaborate attempt to be surprising.
For the very little ones Josephine

Scribner Gates has written an ingenuous little Christmas story in simple words. "The Turkey Doll" (Houghton, Mifflin Company). The illustrations are pretty and in harmony with the text.

In "Cherry Tree Children" (Little. Brown and Company) Mary Frances Blaisdell ingeniously entices small chilin their readers. These sentences develop into stories that explain the pretty olored pictures at the top of the pages. New fairy stories have been composed

ov Mary Stewart in "Once Upon a Time l'ales" (Fleming H. Revell Company). and the Rev. Dr. Henry van Dyke has are pretty and poetic allegories, in which, as my new vina sounds far more beauti- to be consistent. The heroine is thor written an introduction for them. They as is the habit of modern innovators the magical part is dim or is explained. while the moral and elevating part is very pronounced.

Three amusing short stories of boy enterprise and its results are told by Mr. James Otis in "Wanted" (Harpers). In all the brutal realities of life interfere with youthful intentions and aspirations. The struggle of the newsboys to save their comrade from his friends is very funny. We imagine older readers will enjoy these tales more than the boys. A batch of small boys in a country

town find plenty to do in a natural and amusing way in Grace Sortwell Mason's Licky and His Gang" (Houghton Miflittle adventures and struggles exciting and teaches her lessons without preach-

ing.
The task of making Shakespeare known to youth is continued by Miss H. A. Guerber in a volume of "Stories from Shakespeare's English History Plays" (Dodd Mead and Company). The work is done carefully and conscientiously and the analysis of the plays is very full.

### A Hindu Romance. "The Pilgrim Kamanita" by Karl Giel-

lerup (E. P. Dutton and Company) is a real contribution to the literature of the imagination. The translation by John E. Logie is couched in straight, trenchant English, which preserves admirably the atmosphere of the story. The least affectation of style would destroy it, but young Irish friend enjoy a few days of strenuous and continuous exertion with models as the "Arabian Nights" and the poetry of Sir Edwin Arnold. The subject matter of Gjellerup's romance is chiefly of adventure; the newspaper end of an uncommon type and the author has treated it with splendid skill.

Perhaps it will be appreciated best

by those who have read the marvellous story of Nala and Damayanti, one of the (Houghton Mifflin Company). The book is The devotion of Ramanita and Vasitthi attractive form which will appeal to portals of death and into the existence of the hereafter. The majesty of some of the conceptions in the tale may be conceived from the fact that the Lord undeceived by reading "The Mystery of Buddha himself is one of the characters familiar prefaces, has been prepared by the Grey Oak Inn" by Louise Godfrey Irwin in the earthly part of the action, while and plays a speaking part.
The robber chief, Angulimala, is a

remarkable personage and his conversion by Buddha is beautifully described. There is also the desirable touch of humor-Oriental humor, indeed-in the treatment of the philosophic teacher come the fashion, with great attention of the saints, for the tales are all of saints in a boy's book.

In successive episodes, deviating little rowed some of his materials in this work will be found to be even more stirring from the statement of historical facts. from the mass of Hindu literature but

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the substance is his own. It is a romance, husband drift apart. Here the motive indeed, but it might easily have been is an old one. The man is rapidly be-

the level of literary beauty is well sus- in himself and leaves his wife outside. tained. This is not a book, however, She is not the type of woman for this for the carcless novel reader seeking situation. First she is miserable, then to kill the idle hour. It is for the lover of she becomes deflant. The outcome aphigh thought, of nobility of conception, proaches tragedy. of aristocracy of expression. An example of the author's exquisite charm good for nothing younger brother, for trayed through dialogue with a dazzling

existence:

love and faith are the only realities, become desperate. merely changing their names and their forms. They are the meledies and we story might diminish the pleasure of the the lutes on which they are played. The reader. The action is located princilute is shattered and another is strung. pally in Canada, but not in the snowshoe but the melody remains the same. It and below zero atmosphere. The action sounds, it is true, fuller and nobler on the moves steadily and logically and the one instrument than on the other, just characters act in a manner which seems ful than my old one. We, however, are oughly lovable and her struggles with upon from which to draw the sweetest The hero is a good deal of a man, but he of all music.

The captivating freshness and sweet- the most interesting character in the ness of the youth of Vasitthi are com- book is the unhappy wife. Her moods parable only to the glorious triumph of are numerous and change rapidly and her complete womanhood. She is one her actions are sufficiently impetuous of the heroines who will remain in the to make her a challenging personality. heart of the reader. "The Pilgrim Kama- But it is not unlikely that some of her nita" is one of the striking and important lown sex will feel a strong desire to mee literary productions of the autumn

## Less Than the Dust.

"Less Than the Dust." by Mary Agnes Hamilton (Houghton, Mifflin Company). is a novel which has no small amount of flin Company). The author makes their charm. The story is told in the first person by the heroine, whose character is thus adequately exposed. Without doubt a woman is best qualified to write a tale of this kind, for a man can hardly be expected to penetrate to the secret with great ease.

This heroine has the grave misfortune to conceive a real love for the husband of her sister, whom also she loves with uncommon devotion. The sister and the

coming famous and is so engrossed in There is much prose poetry in it and his career that he shuts himself up with-

The husband has a pretty thoroughly of manner may be found in a speech whom he has done everything possible. of Vasitthi in which she discourses on the But the fellow will not work. He is a subject of reincarnation with Kamanita fashionable exquisite and in time he and speculates about their previous enters into a flirtation with the unhappy wife. Nevertheless he is really in love "Even if we were not Nala and Dama- with the unattached sister. The develyanti. I am sure we loved each other opment of the story deals with the mandren to read for pleasure by writing quite as much, whatever our names ner in which this sister saves the wife may have been. And perhaps after all and how the young brother's trouble

To go further into an outline of the two splendid lutes for the gods to play herself are set forth with genuine skill. is less than human at times. Perhaps her and administer a few words of stern rebuke, in that she did not find some better way out of her troubles than ar ranging to do what the English call "bolt However, in the end she finds happiness and so can be left to her fate.

## A Gypay Tale.

George Borrow wrote "Lavengro," which should be translated "word fellow, more than half a century ago, but there is still a potent charm in the life of the springs of feminine thought and action, mysterious gypsies. When one who is though many of them labor under the acquainted with this life describes it in cheering delusion that they can do so a romance full of other human interest the result is certain to be something worth reading. Therefore there need be no hesitation in advising every one to read

Continued on Eleventh Page.

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By Arnold Bennett

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The very preparation for the writing of the work was a romance. Six years the author gave to the work, traveling half way round the world to follow in the footsteps of his subject.

What intimate suggestion, what wise

and frivolous comment, what charm of living quality this has given to the work only he who reads may say. And there is much unpublished writing of Mark Twain himself.

### The Net By Rex Beach

Big, buoyant, bracing, this new story surges along through stormy seas of excitement to its final anchorage in the placid depths of love. Yes, love is here—the strong, passionate love of a man for his heart's desire. Revenge is here—the hot, reeking revenge of the Sicilian Mofie. Correction is here—political Mafia. Corruption is here - political corruption which leads to riot. And through all these scenes of violence and bloodshed there flows a steady stream of the genuine Rex Beach humor the humor of brilliant phrase and ludicrous situation.

Like his other books of the lawless North, this new novel will quicken every heart that pumps red blood, and while in real life one does not care for overmuch slaughter, yet in fiction the guns boom softly, and we remember only the tenderness at the meetings of lovers as we close the book.

Beauty and the Jacobin By Booth Tarkington

A brilliant story-drama, told almost exclusively in dialogue, with the incisive wit and sentimentally audacious appeal of the famous tale, "Monsieur Beau-

The plot shows an ingenuity worthy of a French dramatist; character is poreleverness that makes us think of Dumas -but always the traits of the author's own genius—his American sense of humor and genuine, untheatric feeling are the most potent factors in the charm of this characteristic Tarkington tale.

### The Rocket Book By Peter Newell

a box of matches. Scene—the basement of an apartment house. Then—a flash, a puff of smoke, a trail of sparks—up went the rocket through the ceiling. That was just the beginning of the trouble. The rocket merrily popped up through the floor of the first flat, boring

a neat but perfectly useless hole in the middle of the mahogany dining table. Up and up it went through pianos, phonographs, alarm clocks and flower pots to the top floor, where it started through an ice-cream freezer. But, alas, the ice was too cold and the joyous fligh

ended. The book is especially designed for holiday giving, and will afford pleasure to both young and old.

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